(f) Government ensured expeditious release of funds, loans through banks and other logistic assistance. Governments also monitored the implementation of Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package.

Specialized security agency for VIP security

224. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government are planning to set up a specialized security agency *i.e.* Personal Security Force or Special Security Force to provide security to VIPs in order to avoid multiplicity of agencies;

(b) whether Government are considering to charge the full costs for security cover from the concerned protectees; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (c) The Central Government has set up an Expert Committee to review the policy on Personal Security including the issue of a Special Security Force. This Committee is examining various issues concerning the personal security including cost sharing by certain category of protectees.

Working hours of policemen

225. MS. MABEL REBELLO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) normally how many hours does a policemen work in a day;

(b) whether he is paid overtime for working beyong 8 hours a day;

(c) what happens to him when he works regularly for 12 hours a day;

(d) what compensation package given to him during the year;

(e) whether Government have any plan to reduce the burden of long hours of workload of police constables; and

(f) if so, the plan of action and time period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) to (d) The available information indicates that, on an average, a policeperson works well beyong 8 hours a day. However, the State police forces have different forms of compensatory packages, varying from one month's extra pay, or special leave, or a combination of both.

(e) and (f) As a part of the Central initiatives on police reforms, the State Governments have been advised to examine the recommendation of the Review Committee regarding an eight hour shift as normal duty hours. In addition, they have also been urged to curtail or outsource the non-policing or peripheral functions performed by the police constables, and to fill up the vacancies in the police force. Various welfare measures like compulsory day off in week, higher housing satisfaction, better mobility and office automation hava also been suggested.

Terrorist activities in Punjab

226. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE:
SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any report that Pakistan in the recent past has again become active in aiding and abetting terrorist activities in Punjab;

(b) if so, whether Government have asked the Government of Punjab to submit a report in this regard;

(c) if so, the details in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by Government to check such activities of terrorist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SHRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) Investigations of persons suspected to be involved in the twin bomb blasts in Cinema Halls in Delhi in May, 2005, a minor bomb blast at ISBT. Chandigarh and the incidents of blasts in Jalandhar in April and May, 2006 revealed that Pakistan based pro Khalistani elements are making attempts to revive militancy in Punjab.